



*RESEARCH PAPER*

# Organic priming in pumpkin - An eco-friendly approach for sustainable agriculture

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**Abstract :** Seed priming is a simple, low-cost, low-risk intervention and powerful technique to improve seedling emergence, seedling vigour and yields of several crops. The laboratory experiment was conducted at Department of Seed Science and Technology, Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai during 2014-2015, to find out the effect of priming with bovine urines of cow, buffalo, goat and pig. The pumpkin seeds were soaked for 12 h with different concentrations of 5 and 10 per cent along with control (dry treatment). The seed quality parameters *viz.*, germination (%), root length (cm), shoot length (cm), vigour index and dry matter production (g seedlings<sup>-10</sup>) were evaluated. Among the bovine urines, seeds primed with pig urine (5%) recorded highest germination (99 %), root length (15.6 cm), shoot length (28.5 cm), dry matter production (1.4 g seedlings<sup>-10</sup>) and vigour index I (4366) compared to control (78, 13.0, 24.0, 1.1 and 2886, respectively).

**Key Words :** Bovine urines, Pumbkin, Priming, Vigour index, Organic

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